UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-NINTH SESSION

Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
31st meeting
held on
Thursday, 1 December 1994
at 10 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 31st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KHAN (Pakistan)

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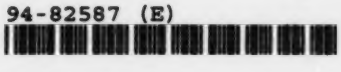

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.23, L.31 and L.39)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (A/C.2/49/L.31)

1. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31, said that no changes had been proposed; he therefore recommended it for adoption.

2. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31 was adopted.

(f) INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (continued)

Draft resolution on the programme of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (A/C.2/49/L.23)

3. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23, drew attention to the following two amendments. In paragraph 5, the phrase "to promote economic growth and sustainable development, including by continuing to promote a favourable climate for foreign investment," should be inserted after the word "measures" in the third line and in paragraph 7, the phrase "new mechanisms and provisions" should be replaced by "new and innovative measures to mobilize resources and promote". He recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

4. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23, as amended, was adopted.

Draft resolution on industrial development cooperation (A/C.2/49/L.39)

5. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39, drew attention to the following amendments. In paragraph 2, the phrase "in a positive investment and business climate" should be inserted after the words "industrial development cooperation" in the first line. In paragraph 3, the words "and entrepreneurship" should be inserted in the first line after the word "industrialization". In the third line, the word "productive" should be inserted after the word "employment". The opening words "Calls upon" in paragraph 6 should be replaced by "Invites", and the phrase "and the Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" should be added at the end of the paragraph.

6. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39, as amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 89: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued)
(A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1, L.25/Rev.1, and L.50)

Draft resolution on fisheries bycatch and discards and their impact on the sustainable use of the world's living marine resources (A/C.2/49/L.50)

7. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.50, saying that the United States wished to draw the international community's attention to the question of waste in the fishing industry, and added that Bangladesh, Belize, Guyana, Peru and Venezuela had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution on support for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme (A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1)

8. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, said that no amendments had been proposed to draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1 and recommended it for adoption.

9. Mr. DE MATOS (Cape Verde) said that Cape Verde wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

10. Miss CHAVES (Colombia) said that Colombia also wished to join the sponsors.

11. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft resolution on the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/C.2/49/L.25/Rev.1)

12. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.10/Rev.1, pointed out that the text of the third preambular paragraph should be replaced by the following: "Deeply concerned by the continuing loss of the world's biodiversity and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reiterating the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources". The word "Requests" at the beginning of paragraph 2 should be replaced by "Invites", and, in paragraph 4, the words "through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council," should be inserted after "report".

13. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.25/Rev.1, as amended, was adopted.

14. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) welcomed the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.25/Rev.1 and suggested that since the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity was currently being held in the Bahamas, the Secretariat should be requested to send the text of the draft resolution to it for the information of delegations.

AGENDA ITEM 90: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.4 and L.51)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations Development Programme and the Human Development Report (A/C.2/49/L.4 and L.51)

15. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.51, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.4, and urged the Committee to adopt it by consensus.

16. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.51 was adopted, and draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.4 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

AGENDA ITEM 91: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.42 and L.46)

(a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/49/L.46)

17. Mr. UKPONG (Nigeria) announced that Guinea, Haiti and Kenya had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

(b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations University (A/C.2/49/L.42)

18. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.42, drew attention to two purely formal amendments which had been made to the English text. In paragraph 2, the word "organizations" should be replaced by the word "agencies" and in paragraph 4, the word "General" should be inserted before the word "Assembly". He urged the Committee to adopt the draft resolution, as amended, by consensus.

19. Mr. PANKIN (Russian Federation) said that his delegation wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

20. Mr. SHINODA (Japan) announced that Bolivia and Venezuela had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

21. Mr. NATHON (Hungary) said that his delegation wished to join the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.42.

22. Mr. FORNER-ROVIRA (Andorra) announced that Andorra had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

23. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.42, as orally amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)
(A/C.2/49/L.26/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa
(A/C.2/49/L.26/Rev.1)

24. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) announced that Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.26/Rev.1.

25. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations, said that agreement had been reached on the draft resolution and urged that it be adopted by consensus.

26. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.26/Rev.1 was adopted.

27. Mr. S. KHAN (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 11 by which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fiftieth session the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization. In the agreed conclusions (1993/2) of the Economic and Social Council on coordination of activities of the United Nations system in the fields of preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera, the Secretary-General was also requested to prepare a report on the implementation of recommendations to improve coordination in the prevention and control of malaria and diarrhoeal diseases. In the interest of efficiency, he proposed that the Secretary-General should consult the World Health Organization with a view to submitting a single report, under the A and E symbols, to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

28. It was so decided.

29. Mr. GHANIM MOHAMED (Sudan) said that he was very pleased at the keen interest shown in the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, not only by members of the Group of 77 but also by all members of the Committee, and recalled that his country had been the first to draw attention to the issue. He was also deeply grateful to the delegation of Benin for its efforts to push the draft resolution and thanked all the countries that had joined in sponsoring it thus lending it greater weight. The Sudan was also highly appreciative of the technical assistance it had received. In the previous year, a new strain of malaria had emerged in the country, one that was resistant to chloroquine, and had affected all sectors of society. Since chloroquine had proved ineffective, it had been necessary to use quinine, which caused kidney damage; as a result hundreds of people had died, in 1993, from kidney failure. The Government had therefore launched a national campaign, led by the President of the Republic, to combat the disease and promote a healthy environment. A national healthy environment day had been proclaimed during which all sectors of society had participated in efforts to eliminate mosquitoes from the infested regions. That was the background to the preparation of the draft resolution. Financial and

medical assistance from donors and the international organizations concerned was necessary in the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases.

30. Mr. .ONTOYA (Colombia) welcomed the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.26/Rev.1, and expressed his Government's gratitude for the mention, in paragraph 6, of the offer made by Dr. Manuel Elkin Patarroyo of Colombia. That official recognition should encourage the latter in his work.

The meeting rose at 11.05 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-NINTH SESSION

Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
32nd meeting
held on
Wednesday, 7 December 1994
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 32nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KHAN (Pakistan)

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(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (continued)

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AGENDA ITEM 90: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING SPONSORSHIP OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

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A/C.2/49/SR.32
21 December 1994

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.3)

Draft resolution on integration of the Commission on Transnational Corporations into the institutional machinery of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (A/C.2/49/L.3)

1. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.3, recommended the draft text for adoption by consensus.

2. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.3 was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 87: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.6)

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITMENTS AND POLICIES AGREED UPON IN THE DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (continued)

Draft resolution on implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (A/C.2/49/L.6)

3. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, said that during the informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.6 and said that a number of revisions to the text had been agreed. In the first preambular paragraph, the phrase "overall framework for economic growth and development" should read "overall framework for sustained economic growth and sustainable development". In the second preambular paragraph, the words "sustained economic growth and sustainable" should be inserted after the word "promoting".

4. Paragraph 1 should be deleted. In paragraph 5, the words "as appropriate" should be inserted before the word "provide". He recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

5. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.6, as orally revised, was adopted.

6. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77 and China, said that the consensus on the draft resolution just adopted should not obscure the fact that, in the four years since the adoption of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation and the International

Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, little had been accomplished with respect to their implementation. In order to avoid confrontation, the sponsors of the draft resolution had proposed a text which avoided quantification. However, the absence of any reference to specific figures should not serve as a pretext for inaction.

7. The developing countries had abided by virtually all the provisions of the Declaration and the Strategy that applied to them. It was now imperative that the developed countries should do likewise, if the 1996 mid-term review of the implementation of the commitments undertaken in the Declaration and the Strategy was to be more than a mere verbal exercise.

8. Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that in joining in the consensus, his delegation had considered that all the provisions of the Declaration were of equal significance. It attached particular importance to the provisions concerning the need for continuing efforts to integrate the countries in transition into the world economy. His Government would continue to strive to achieve sustainable development as it pursued integration into the world economy.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.45)

Draft resolution on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/C.2/49/L.45)

9. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.45, said that a number of revisions had been agreed upon. Paragraphs 4 and 5 had been merged, so that the third and fourth lines of paragraph 4 read "... international community and requests the Secretary-General ...". In that same paragraph, the words "for consideration" should be inserted after the word "propose", the phrase "and that are ripe for consideration or negotiation in the spirit of renewed dialogue and partnership" should be deleted and the words "which are" should be inserted after "and also". In paragraph 6, the words "Secretary-General to further elaborate his proposal of taking" should be replaced by the words "working group on the agenda for development to give consideration to the proposal of the Secretary-General to take". With those changes, he recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

10. The CHAIRMAN noted that, as the working group on the agenda for development had yet to be established, square brackets would be placed around the words "working group on the agenda for development". The brackets would automatically be removed once the General Assembly had established the working group.

11. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.45, as orally revised, was adopted.

12. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) said that the adoption of the draft resolution would sustain the momentum generated by General Assembly resolution 48/165.

(d) CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.33)

Draft resolution on cultural development (A/C.2/49/L.33)

13. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.33, drew attention to a number of revisions. In paragraph 4, the word "expects" should be replaced by "looks forward to". In paragraph 5, the words "as well as" should be replaced by "and, within existing budgetary resources,". In paragraph 6, the word "undertake" should be replaced by "consider undertaking". Lastly, in paragraph 7, the words "an item" should be replaced by "a sub-item". He recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

14. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.33, as orally revised, was adopted.

(h) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.28 and L.53)

Draft resolutions on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries: International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (A/C.2/49/L.28 and L.53)

15. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.53, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.28. He drew attention to the ninth preambular paragraph, in which the words "and the coordination of international cooperation" should be inserted before the words "for combating", and recommended the revised draft resolution for adoption.

16. Mr. BIAOU (Benin) drew attention to paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.53 and proposed that the words "the designers of" should be inserted before "the logo chosen".

17. The Beninese oral amendment was adopted.

18. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.53, as orally revised and amended, was adopted.

19. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.28 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

AGENDA ITEM 89: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.8, L.20, L.24 and L.58)

Draft resolutions on the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its second session (A/C.2/49/L.8 and L.58)

20. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.58, which he was submitting the on the basis of informal

consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.8, and recommended it for adopted by consensus.

21. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.58 was adopted.

22. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, recalled that, in addition to sustainable partnership for development, Agenda 21 stressed the principle of common and differentiated responsibilities of all countries. Sustainable development was thus inseparable from the issue of new and additional resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technology, and the future work of the Commission on Sustainable Development must focus on the implementation of the commitments undertaken in that area. Furthermore, the relationship between trade and development should be considered in terms of ensuring meaningful development and not as a pretext for disguised protectionism. The Commission could not hide the fact that the developed partners had the primary responsibility for abandoning non-viable patterns of production and consumption. At the same time, the Rio process required all partners to impose the necessary restrictions to safeguard the interests of present and future generations as well as the planet's present and future ecological balance.

23. Mr. BIOTINO (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, Austria, Finland and Sweden, said that while the text of the draft resolution was an acceptable reflection of the discussions which had taken place during the second session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, certain misgivings remained about paragraph 3, concerning financial resources for sustainable development. The European Union felt that two years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the progress made in that context should be acknowledged.

24. The replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), specifically the tripling of the size of the core fund, was a major achievement and provided a sound basis for the financing of activities. The draft resolution failed to reflect the fact that the successful restructuring of the GEF governance structure might serve as an example in other areas. In addition, some of the positive policy recommendations of the Commission should have been mentioned in order to give a more balanced picture of its discussions.

25. Mr. ELISSEEV (Ukraine) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution although it did not agree with all its provisions. It was important to approach the socio-economic development of States in a balanced and consistent manner, and his delegation would endeavour to ensure that future draft resolutions of the Second Committee would take into account the specific problems of developing countries as well as those of countries with economies in transition.

26. Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that his delegation had joined the consensus with some reservations, as certain issues had not been duly reflected in the text of the draft resolution. He hoped that in the future the Commission on Sustainable Development and the General Assembly would find adequate

opportunities to react to genuine development efforts being undertaken by the countries with economies in transition. The draft resolution should also have stressed the need for Governments to move from the general principles developed by the Commission to the implementation of concrete measures.

27. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco) said that paragraph 5 of the draft resolution would have been clearer had concern been expressed over the implementation of the financial recommendations and commitments of Agenda 21, in particular those dealing with official development assistance.

28. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.8 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Draft resolution on unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas (A/C.2/49/L.20)

29. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, said that in the informal consultations on draft A/C.2/49/L.20 agreement had been reached on a number of amendments to be made to the text. In the fifth preambular paragraph, the world's "largest share" should be replaced by the words "overwhelming proportion". The following new paragraph should be inserted between the fifth and sixth preambular paragraphs:

> "Reaffirming the rights and duties of coastal States to ensure proper conservation and management measures with respect to their living resources in zones under their national jurisdiction in accordance with international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,".

30. In paragraph 1 the words "to take measures" should be inserted after the phrase "Law of the Sea". In paragraph 2, a comma should be inserted after the word "efforts", followed by the phrase "including through financial and/or technical assistance,". In paragraph 4, the word "Secretariat" should be replaced by the word "Secretary-General".

31. Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines) and Ms. WILLIAMS-STEWART (Samoa) said that they wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

32. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.20, as orally revised, was adopted.

33. Mr. SHIBATA (Japan), explaining his delegation's position, said that his Government condemned wanton acts of poaching in waters of national jurisdiction and strongly supported the strengthening of measures to ensure that all fishing operations were conducted in a responsible manner. He drew the Committee's attention to the discussions taking place in a number of international forums concerning measures for conserving and managing the world's fishery resources, such as the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and the ongoing talks on an international code of conduct for responsible fishing organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The measures called for in the draft resolution just

adopted should not be construed as prejudging the outcome of those discussions or undermining the efforts of existing management arrangements.

34. Mr. RYDENSKY (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had supported the draft resolution because the Russian Federation had suffered substantial damage from unauthorized fishing of migratory species in its economic zone, especially in the Bering Straits and the Barents and Okhotsk Seas. It hoped that the resolution would help to solve that problem.

35. Mr. Hong Jae IM (Republic of Korea) said that his delegation fully shared the view that all fishing operations should be conducted in a responsible manner. Like Japan, however, it wished to draw attention to the fact that a number of relevant international forums were addressing the conservation and management of marine living resources. The draft resolution just adopted should neither prejudge the outcome nor undermine the ongoing efforts of those forums. Coastal States had the main duty of preventing unauthorized fishing, but all States should be partners in conserving living marine resources.

36. Ms. YANG Yanyi (China) said that her Government had long supported measures to control unauthorized fishing, since overfishing was the main reason for the decline of many fish stocks. Coastal States bore the main responsibility for limiting unauthorized fishing. China would participate in the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and would work to implement its recommendations.

37. Mr. BURHAN (Turkey) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution, but wished to remind Committee members that Turkey had been unable to sign the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea because of that instrument's lack of adequate provisions for special geographical circumstances and its resulting inability to strike a satisfactory balance between conflicting interests. Moreover, the Convention stipulated that no reservations could be registered on specific clauses.

38. Accordingly, he wished to clarify that Turkey interpreted the references to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in the new preambular paragraph which the Vice-Chairman had just read out and in paragraph 1 of the draft resolution as pertaining to international law on fishing matters as reflected in the relevant articles of the Convention of the Law of the Sea.

39. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) said that, in the view of her delegation, the draft resolution complemented the work of the Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

Draft decision on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas (A/C.2/49/L.24)

40. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, said that, as a result of the informal consultations, a number of amendments had been proposed to paragraph (c) of the draft decision. First, the phrase "the measures taken and" should be added after the word "despite". Secondly, the phrase "that their

nationals and fishing vessels comply" should be replaced by the words "full compliance". Lastly, the phrase "their nationals and fishing vessels that act" should be replaced by the words "consistent with international law, acts".

41. The CHAIRMAN announced that Argentina, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia had joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

42. Draft decision A/C.2/49/L.24 as orally revised, was adopted.

43. Mr. LOZANO (Mexico) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus because it recognized the importance of protecting living marine resources. It believed that the imposition of appropriate sanctions on violators of General Assembly resolution 46/215, as called for in paragraph (c), was entirely appropriate.

(d) ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.13, L.30 and L.54)

Draft resolutions on elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa (A/C.2/49/L.13 and L.30)

44. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.30, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.13, and recommended it for adoption by consensus.

45. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the statement of programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.30, which was contained in document A/C.2/49/L.54.

46. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.30 was adopted.

47. Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines) said that, as a member of the Group of 77, his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution. However, the Philippines believed that the problems of humid tropical countries that had been affected by drought had not been given full consideration in the Convention. It appeared that elements pertaining to the problem of drought had been deleted from the Convention before its signing in Paris. He therefore urged the international community to view drought as a critical element in sustainable development.

48. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) said that no continent had been spared desertification but that its effects were particularly severe in the southern hemisphere, especially in Africa. As measures to combat its effects were beyond the means of most of the afflicted countries, the adoption of the draft resolution would give them renewed hope. It was imperative for the Convention to enter into force as soon as possible. With regard to the programme budget implications of

the draft resolution, the Group of 77 considered the proposed allocation to be the minimum required to allow the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to complete its work.

49. Mr. BIAOU (Benin) said that the adoption of the draft resolution was another step towards implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification. It had been impossible to reflect the interests of all States in the Convention, but the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee ought to remedy any omissions at its future sessions. He appealed for assistance to African countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

50. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

AGENDA ITEM 90: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/49/133-E/1994/49 and Add.1, A/49/326)

51. The CHAIRMAN read out the text of a proposed draft decision by which the Committee would take note of the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on field representation of United Nations system organizations: a more unitary approach, contained in document A/49/133-E/1994/49 and Add.1, and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children, contained in document A/49/326.

52. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) said that, with regard to the first document, it had been his delegation's understanding that, with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 48/209 on field offices of the United Nations development system, the Committee would not need to return to the matter at the current session.

53. Mr. STOBY (Director, Division for Policy Coordination and Economic and Social Council Affairs) said that the draft decision was purely procedural and had no substantive or policy implications.

54. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) said that the Group of 77 would prefer to hold informal consultations before accepting the proposal.

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING SPONSORSHIP OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

55. The CHAIRMAN said that Australia and Mexico had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.41, submitted under agenda item 92.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS
General Assembly
FORTY-NINTH SESSION
Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
33rd meeting
held on
Friday, 9 December 1994
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 33rd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KHAN (Pakistan)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.27, L.40, L.44, L.56, L.61 and L.62)

(b) FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on food and agricultural development (A/C.2/49/L.40 and L.62)

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40, and expressed the hope that it would be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.62 was adopted.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.40 was withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa contained in document A/49/507.

It was so decided.

(e) INTEGRATION OF THE ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION INTO THE WORLD ECONOMY (continued)

Draft resolution on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (A/C.2/49/L.44)

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, drew attention to two revisions. The words "resolutions 47/175 and 47/187 of 22 December 1992 and" should be inserted in the first preambular paragraph after the words "Reaffirming its", and the phrase "essential to sustainable development" should be added at the end of the final preambular paragraph. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. LUEDIG (Estonia) noted that Japan had joined the sponsors and that Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mongolia and Uzbekistan also wished to become sponsors. Referring to the proposed revisions, he said that the sponsors of the draft resolution were aware and fully took into account the concerns expressed in paragraph 2 of resolution 47/175 and paragraph 2 of resolution 47/187 concerning the potential diversion of development assistance from the developing countries to the economies in transition. He noted that relations between representatives of the economies in transition and those of developed and developing countries continued to improve and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. MACEDO (Mexico) requested a number of corrections in the Spanish translation in order to make it consistent with the English text.

Mr. DZUNDEV (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) said that his delegation wished to become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.44, as orally revised, was adopted.

Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, welcomed the adoption of the resolution and thanked the representative of Estonia for reiterating that the resources necessary for the integration of the economies in transition would not be diverted from development assistance to developing countries. The Group of 77 and China welcomed the success achieved thus far in the efforts of the economies in transition to integrate into the world economy and, in particular, the imminent acceptance of a number of those countries into the European Union.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) supported the statement made by the Algerian representative, adding that Belarus, a sponsor of the draft resolution, had participated in every stage of the negotiations on it. Full integration of the transition economies into the international economy was a vital prerequisite for sustainable development. The understanding which was emerging in that regard was far more significant than the narrower problems concerning resources. The opportunities afforded by economic cooperation among all countries would ensure the full participation of countries in transition in the world economy.

(g) UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II) (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/C.2/49/L.27 and L.61)

The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, contained in document A/C.2/49/L.56.

Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.61, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27, and pointed out that the words "in their countries" should be inserted in paragraph 14 after the words "towns and villages". He expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the original sponsors of the draft resolution, said that the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland wished to join the sponsors.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus), Mrs. RADUCHOWSKA-BROCHWICZ (Poland) and Mr. DOUKAS (Greece) said that their delegations also wished to become sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.61, as orally revised, was adopted.

Mr. BATU (Turkey) welcomed the adoption of the resolution and expressed the conviction that Habitat II would be a major forum for addressing problems relating to human settlements in all countries. Turkey would be taking all appropriate measures to ensure the success of the Conference, and he invited all Member States to participate actively in the remaining sessions of the Preparatory Committee.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27 was withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/176 of 21 December 1993 contained in document A/49/640.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 89: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1 and A/C.2/49/L.60)

(e) GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (continued)

Draft resolution on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1)

The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/49/L.60.

Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, expressed the hope that it would be adopted by consensus.

Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) and Mr. KING (Trinidad and Tobago), referring to paragraph 9 of document A/C.2/49/L.60 on programme budget implications, said that the post of chief of the proposed small island developing States unit should be a D-1 level post. They would also appreciate clarification of paragraph 14.

The CHAIRMAN said that clarification would be provided at the next meeting. The other point would be taken up in the Fifth Committee.

Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) said that, with the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States barely under way, it would be premature to consider convening a second Global Conference. Her delegation preferred to focus its efforts on implementation of the Programme of Action. The United States was analysing its own activities and those undertaken by regional and international organizations

in the light of the priorities identified in the Programme of Action, and was maintaining close ties with national non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The United States was actively promoting the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), which it had announced at the Global Conference, held at Barbados. The Initiative was aimed at preserving marine biodiversity, in particular coral reefs and their ecosystems, and mobilizing political will at the local, national, regional and international levels to that end. The ICRC partnership included Australia, France, Jamaica, Japan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The Alliance of Small Island States and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme had also participated in its development.

The reports of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on a technical assistance programme and on an information network among small island developing States (SIDSI/NET) had been drawn to the attention of experts in the United States. In conclusion, as a member of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, her delegation welcomed the establishment of a regional mechanism for follow-up of the Programme of Action in the South Pacific.

Mr. BIONTINO (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that adoption of the draft resolution would constitute a major stride in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. During the consultations the European Union, which was a sponsor of the draft resolution, had consistently stressed that the activities proposed in paragraphs 12, 13 and 15 should be implemented relying on the most efficient and cost-effective use of resources. That would require, inter alia, the reorganization and restructuring of certain United Nations bodies. The programme budget implications submitted did not sufficiently take that into account and should therefore be reconsidered.

Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.37/Rev.1 was adopted.

Mr. KING (Trinidad and Tobago) said that the commitment of the Alliance of Small Island States to implementing the Programme of Action was reflected in the communiqué it had issued on 4 May 1994 at Barbados. That commitment had already translated into a number of national and regional initiatives.

The monitoring, implementation and review processes outlined in the draft resolution were vital complements to the concrete action to be taken by small island States and other members of the international community in the follow-up to the Barbados Conference. While small island developing States continued to bear the main responsibility for their development, the Programme of Action stressed cooperation with the rest of the international community, including regional and interregional cooperation among small island developing States and cooperation with other developing countries.

The Alliance wished to thank the Group of 77 and China for their continued support, the sponsors of the draft resolution and those delegations which had not sponsored it but had shown flexibility during informal consultations and, in

particular, the United States of America for its assurances of continued support to the implementation of the Programme of Action and for the concrete action it had taken.

Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that, for technical reasons, his delegation had been unable to join the sponsors earlier but wished to become a sponsor at that time. It supported the measures outlined in the draft resolution, in particular national efforts to promote regional and interregional cooperation with the active support of the international community.

The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.